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| 10/634,102 | 08/04/2003 | Takayuki Nakagawa | 450100-04697 | 5862 |

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| EXAMINER |
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FINDLEY, CHRISTOPHER G

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2621

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03/17/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/634,102 | Applicant(s) NAKAGAWA ET AL. | |
| | Examiner CHRISTOPHER FINDLEY | Art Unit 2621 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 January 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-12,14,15 and 17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-12,14,15 and 17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 12/16/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Applicant contends that the prior art cited fails to teach or suggests that when a user inputs a user input play previous content block operation, a jump destination of a command is one of (a) a beginning of a current content block if the amount of elapsed time from the beginning of the reproduction of the current content block is less than a predetermined time and (b) a beginning of a previous content block if the amount of elapsed time from the beginning of the reproduction of the current content block is equal to or greater than the determined time as claimed in claims 1, 9 and 17. However, the Examiner respectfully asserts that such a contention is moot because the amended claim language being relied upon as the basis for the above argument is not supported by the Applicant's specification. With reference to the Applicant's specification, the Examiner notes that steps ST10, ST11, ST12 and ST13 of Fig. 4 and the jumps in response to the "PlayPrevChapter" command at t14 and t16 in Fig. 5 illustrate the opposite functionality from that which is recited in the claims, thus failing to support the language in the claims. Accordingly, the amended language filed as an After Final amendment on 12/16/2009 and entered as a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) on 1/15/2010 will not be treated with prior art on its merits. A copy of the previous rejection with respect to the claim language filed 8/10/2009 is included below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1-4, 6-12, 14-15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. As noted above in the Response to Arguments section, with reference to the Applicant's specification, steps ST10, ST11, ST12 and ST13 of Fig. 4 and the jumps corresponding to the "PlayPrevChapter" command at t14 and t16 in Fig. 5 illustrate the opposite functionality from that which is recited in the claims. Therefore, the claim language is not supported by the Applicant's specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claims 1-4, 6-12, 14, 15, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawamura et al. (US 20020044757 A1).**

Re **claim 1**, Kawamura discloses a reproduction controlling apparatus (Kawamura: paragraph [0169]) comprising: user interface receiving user input according to operation by a user (Kawamura: paragraph [0174]); auxiliary information generation means for generating auxiliary information based on a first event notice related to reproduction operation regarding content recorded in a recording medium (Kawamura: paragraph [0176], entry points) and a second event notice indicating reproduction position information of said recording medium (Kawamura: paragraph [0190], "sector currently reproduced"); comparison-computation means for comparing or computing reproduction position information indicated by said auxiliary information with reproduction position information indicated by a later received second event notice to determine amount of elapsed time (Kawamura: paragraph [0190]; paragraph [0096], actual time code, tracks, and sections are given for each path, wherein time codes denote the period of time elapsed since the beginning of the program or track); and command issuing means for issuing a command for controlling reproduction operation of said content, based on the amount of elapsed time (Kawamura: paragraph [0190], the controller 2120 compares sector addresses and directs the drive controlling circuit in accordance with position information; paragraph [0096], actual time code, tracks, and sections are given for each path, wherein time codes denote the period of time elapsed since the beginning of the program or track) and the user input (Kawamura: paragraph [0174], the controller 2120 controls the drive controlling circuit 2106 in response to the user input; paragraphs [0035] and [0037], the user selects among plural recorded versions of a video work; paragraph [0026], each version of the video work corresponds

to a specific playback path), wherein (b) for a user input play previous content block operation, a jump destination of a command changes based upon the amount of elapsed time from a beginning of reproduction of a content block (Kawamura: paragraph [0117], the user can jump directly to a specific track of a specific program; paragraph [0112], jumping to a specific program includes jumping to the beginning of the present track and further back if desired; paragraph [0108], the path_descriptor() area is provided in the PSM of the entry sector and includes time codes for each path, thereby allowing an accurate time indication to be given for each particular path even though certain sections of data may be common to different paths; Fig. 4 and paragraph [0085], the jump destination changes depending on what temporal point in the program the jump occurs).

Kawamura also discloses that path information is indicative of one or more versions of video information sections to be reproduced in a linked fashion, the path information being indicative of sections to be reproduced consecutively (Kawamura: paragraph [0015]) and the user can jump directly to a specific track of a specific program, thus indicating that the path information containing linked sections play continuously until a user selects otherwise (Kawamura: paragraph [0117]). Kawamura discloses that time codes, tracks and sections are given for each path, wherein time codes denote the period of time elapsed since the beginning of the program or track (Kawamura: paragraph [0096]). Kawamura further discloses that it is possible for a jump to occur within a track (Kawamura: paragraph [0096], with reference to Fig. 5). While Kawamura does not explicitly state that for a user input skip operation, each

content block is sequentially and automatically reproduced from its beginning for only a predetermined time, wherein the predetermined time being less than an amount of time to reproduce the content block, the Examiner respectfully asserts that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have found it obvious that in view of the above cited portions of Kawamura, the jump may occur before the end of the track according to a predetermined time code.

Re **claim 2**, Kawamura discloses information storage means for storing auxiliary information generated by said auxiliary information generation means (Kawamura: paragraph [0176], entry point storing unit 2122); wherein said comparison-computation means performs comparison or calculation by utilizing reproduction position information indicated by auxiliary information read out from said information storage means (Kawamura: paragraph [0190], “controller 2120 compares the sector address of the sector currently reproduced from the drive control circuit 2106 to the sector address stored in entry point storing unit 2122”).

Re **claim 3**, Kawamura discloses that the first event notice comprises notice of start of reproduction of a content block constituting said content (Kawamura: paragraph [0174]); and said auxiliary information generation means generates said auxiliary information based on a content block to be reproduced and reproduction position information at an event of reproduction of such content block (Kawamura: paragraph [0176]).

Re **claim 4**, Kawamura discloses that said command issuing means changes a content block to be reproduced based on the amount of elapsed time (Kawamura:

paragraph [0190]; paragraph [0096], actual time code, tracks, and sections are given for each path, wherein time codes denote the period of time elapsed since the beginning of the program or track).

Re **claim 6**, Kawamura discloses that said first event notice comprises notice of start of reproduction of a content block constituting said content (Kawamura: paragraph [0174]); and said auxiliary information generation means generates said auxiliary information based on a content block to reproduced and reproduction position information at an event of reproduction of such content block (Kawamura: paragraph [0176]).

Re **claim 7**, Kawamura discloses that said command issuing means changes a content block to be reproduced based on the amount of elapsed time (Kawamura: paragraph [0190]; paragraph [0096], actual time code, tracks, and sections are given for each path, wherein time codes denote the period of time elapsed since the beginning of the program or track).

Re **claim 8**, Kawamura discloses that if there is an issuing operation for a command for controlling reproduction of said content, said command issuing means issues said issued command by converting or adjusting said issued command based on a result of comparison or computation by said comparison-computation means (Kawamura: paragraphs [0196]-[0197]).

Claim 9 recites the corresponding reproduction controlling method implemented by the reproduction controlling apparatus of claim 1. Therefore, claim 9 has been analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 1 above.

Claim 10 has been analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 2 above.

Claim 11 has been analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 3 above.

Claim 12 has been analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 4 above.

Claim 14 has been analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 6 above.

Claim 15 has been analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 7 above.

Claim 17 recites the corresponding computer readable medium containing computer executable programs for causing a computer to implement the method of claim 9. Therefore, claim 17 has been analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 9 above.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- a. Data reproduction apparatus and reproduction method
Ichikawa et al. (US 6959141 B1)
- b. Transport stream processing device, and associated methodology of
generating and aligning source data packets in a physical data structure

Kato (US 7106946 B1)

c. Method and apparatus for compensating reproduced audio signals of an optical disc

Cho (US 20020110366 A1)

d. Information recording medium, apparatus and method for recording/reproducing information to/from the medium

Kawasaki et al. (US 20020131761 A1)

e. Reproducing apparatus and reproducing/recording apparatus memorizing identification information of optical information media and method thereof

Sakuramoto (US 20020126992 A1)

f. Fast forward trick mode and reverse trick mode using an information file

Lin et al. (US 20030077071 A1)

g. Information record medium and apparatus for reproducing information according to navigation information

Moriyama et al. (US 7095951 B2)

Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHRISTOPHER FINDLEY whose telephone number is (571)270-1199. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:30 AM-5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marsha D. Banks-Harold can be reached on 571-272-7905. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Marsha D. Banks-Harold/ SPE Art Unit 2621

/Christopher Findley/